



The President



Vice President



Secretary of State



Secretary of the Treasury



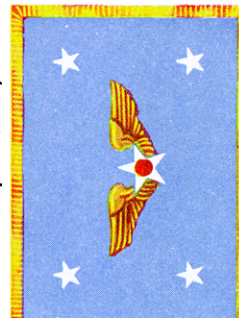
Secretary of Defense



Secretary of the Navy



Secretary of the Army



Secretary of the Air Force



Attorney General



Postmaster General



Secretary of the Interior



Secretary of Agriculture



Secretary of Commerce



Secretary of Labor

Figure 10-3.—Personal flags of civil officials of the United States.

concerned, or the senior officer present, considers the need to render the flagship less distinguishable. If hauled down, it will be replaced with a commission pennant.

Personal flags or command pennants of military officers other than U.S. naval officers eligible for command at sea are not displayed from ships or crafts of the U.S. Navy.

An officer of the Navy commanding a ship engaged otherwise than in the service of the United States must not display a personal flag, command pennant, or commission pennant from such ship or in the bow of a boat.

BROAD AND BURGEE COMMAND PENNANTS

Personal command pennants of an officer of the Navy, not a flag officer, commanding a unit of ships or aircraft are of two types: broad and burgee. A broad command pennant indicates command of

1. A force, flotilla, squadron, or group of ships of any type (PHIBGRU, DESRON), or
2. An aircraft wing.

The burgee command pennant indicates command of a division of ships other than aircraft carriers or cruisers, or a major subdivision of an aircraft wing.

The broad and burgee command pennants are shown with numerals to indicate the organizational number of the command within a type, when numerals are assigned. When two commanders within a type are entitled to display the same command pennant and have the same organizational number, the senior of the two uses Roman numerals on the pennant. In all other cases, Arabic numerals are used. For more information concerning the use of the broad and burgee command pennants, refer to NTP 13, chapter 9.

SIZE OF PERSONAL FLAGS AND COMMAND PENNANTS

A vessel under 600 feet in length shall display a size 6 command pennant or a size 7 personnel flag. A vessel 600 feet or greater in length shall display a size 4 command pennant or a size 6 personal flag.

DISPLAY OF TWO PERSONAL FLAGS SIMULTANEOUSLY

When the personal flag of a civil official is displayed aboard a ship or craft of the Navy, the personal flag or command pennant of the embarked commander must be displayed as follows:

- Aboard a single-masted ship, at the starboard yardarm
- Aboard a two-masted ship, at the fore truck
- Aboard a ship with more than two masts, at the after mast

When the personal flag of a civil official and the personal flag or command pennant of an officer of the Navy are displayed at the starboard yardarm, the flag of the civil official shall be displayed outboard.

DISPLAY OF A PERSONAL FLAG AND PENNANT WHEN NATIONAL ENSIGN IS AT MASTHEAD

The President's flag, if displayed at a masthead where the national ensign is required to be displayed during an official visit or during periods of dress or full-dress ship, must remain at that masthead to port of the United States ensign and to starboard of a foreign national ensign.

Except as just mentioned, a personal flag or command pennant must not be displayed at the same masthead with the ensign, but should be displayed as follows:

- During periods of dressing or full-dressing, if displayed from the fore truck or from the masthead of a single-masted ship, it should be shifted to the starboard yardarm; if displayed from the main truck, the personal flag or command pennant is shifted at the fore truck in lieu of the national ensign at that mast; and if displayed from the after truck of a ship with more than two masts, it remains at the after truck in lieu of the national ensign.

- During gun salutes in which the ensign is hoisted at the main truck, however, the personal flag or pennant is simply lowered clear of the ensign.

- During an official visit, the personal flag or command pennant is shifted to the starboard yardarm in a single-masted ship and to the fore truck in a two-masted ship.

ASHORE DISPLAY OF PERSONAL FLAGS AND COMMAND PENNANTS

Personal flags and command pennants are flown day and night at a suitable and conspicuous place at naval shore installations. When the points for display of two or more personal flags ashore are in such close proximity as to make their separate display inappropriate, that of the senior officer is displayed. When two officials entitled to display personal flags are at the same command, only the senior officer displays his/her flag.

Official Visits

During an official visit by a foreign president or sovereign, the national ensign of that nation is flown during the visit. A visit by any other foreign officials requires the display of the foreign national ensign or personal flag during the gun salute only, as follows:

- If the foreign visitor is a military official or officer, his/her personal flag, if provided, is flown during the salute and from automobiles. If no flag is provided, the foreign ensign of such nation is flown during the salute, and an equivalent personal flag of a U.S. naval officer may be flown from automobiles, and a comparable plate shown on a military plane transporting the dignitary.
- U.S. personal flags for specific positions (CNO, VCNO) are not used for foreign visitors. In these cases, either the military rank equivalent flag or foreign national ensign is used for colors.
- During all first official visits for foreign service chiefs, the rank of the visitor is equal to that of his/her U.S. counterpart. Therefore, a U.S. Navy line officer four-star flag is flown for foreign navy Chiefs (instead of the CNO personal flag), regardless of the foreign service chiefs' rank.

Flagpole Configurations and Size of Flags Flown

The following information is provided in selecting the proper halyard for displaying a personal flag or command pennant with the U.S. flag:

Polemast—Personal flag/command pennant not flown

Polemast with Crosstree—Outermost halyard, right-hand crosstree

Polemast with Gaff—Peak of pole

Polemast with Crosstree and Gaff—Peak of pole

Now that you know the proper halyards for the display of the personal flag and command pennant, you now must know what size to use. The following information indicates the appropriate size of personal flag or command pennant to be flown at shore activities from flagstaffs of various height.

Flagstaff height	Personal Flag	Broad/Burgee
Less than 35 feet	#7 1'10" by 2'8"	#8 1'2" by 1' 6"
Greater than 35 feet	#6 3'7" by 5' 1 1/2"	#6 2' by 2' 7"

PERSONAL FLAGS ON VEHICLES

An officer entitled to display a personal flag or command pennant may, when riding in a government vehicle on official occasions, display such flag or pennant forward on the vehicle. The staff used for vehicle flags is topped by an acorn, regardless of the rank of the official or officer in the vehicle.

All flag officers are authorized to show stars of their rank on their assigned vehicle. The method of showing such stars should be plates resembling civilian license plates in shape and size. Coloring will correspond to that of the personal flag. Personal flags must not be painted on the vehicle.

PERSONNEL FLAGS ON AIRCRAFT

Civil and military official aircraft plates are facsimiles, less fringe, of individual personal flags of the official concerned, reduced in scale and reproduced on a metal plate, 11 by 14 inches. Normally, the civil or military official's aide will be responsible for ensuring that the individual's aircraft plate is available for display.

Personal flags may also be printed on aircraft assigned to flag officers acting in flag billets. Sheet metal replicas inserted in metal slots are also authorized. The flag should be located on each side of the forward fuselage and must conform in size.

NTP 13 contains a list of personnel authorized to display a personal flag from an aircraft.

COMMISSION PENNANT

With exceptions already noted, the commission pennant is the distinctive mark of a Navy ship in

commission that has no flag officer or other unit commander embarked. The pennant is flown at the after truck or, on a mastless ship, at the highest and most conspicuous point of hoist.

Although the commission pennant is not a personal pennant, it is sometimes regarded as the personal symbol of the commanding officer. Along with the ensign and union jack, it is half-masted upon the death of the commanding officer. It remains at half-mast until sunset of the day of the funeral or until the body is removed from the ship.

DRESSING AND FULL-DRESSING SHIP

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Explain procedures for dressing and full-dressing ship. Explain actions to be carried out when dressing and full-dressing in port, under way, when half-masting, and dipping.

When dressing or full-dressing ship, the largest national ensign with which the ship is furnished is displayed from the flagstaff and, except as prescribed for a ship displaying a personal flag or command pennant, a national ensign is displayed from each masthead. The national ensigns displayed at the mastheads should be of uniform size but smaller than the one at the flagstaff. If there is a substantial difference in heights of mastheads, however, a difference in the size of the national ensigns is appropriate.

When the ship is full-dressed, mastheads are dressed as described in the preceding paragraph. In addition, a rainbow of signal flags is displayed, reaching from the foot of the jackstaff to the mastheads, then to the foot of the flagstaff. Peculiarly masted or mastless ships make a display as little modified from the rainbow effect as possible. The rainbow is displayed in the order prescribed in NTP 13.

Ships not under way are dressed or full-dressed from 0800 until sunset. Ships under way are not dressed or full-dressed. Ships operated by the Military Sealift Command (MSC) are not required to be full-dressed, but will dress ship when full-dress is specified and on all occasions of dress ship.

Ships are full-dressed on the third Monday of February (President's Day) and the Fourth of July (Independence Day). When the Fourth of July falls on

a Sunday, ceremonies are conducted the following day. Ships are dressed on the remaining national holidays. Ships may be full-dressed or dressed at such other times as may be prescribed.

When dressing or full-dressing ship in honor of a foreign nation, the national ensign of that nation replaces the United States national ensign at the main, or the masthead in a single-masted ship.

Should the occasion arise whereby the ensign is to be half-masted or dipped during dress or full-dress ship, only the national ensign at the flagstaff is half-masted or dipped.

When full-dressing is prescribed, the senior officer present may direct that dressing be substituted if the state of the weather makes such action advisable. The senior officer present may also exempt ships undergoing shipyard and/or repairs from dress or full-dress ship.

Only clean flags should be used in full-dressing ship. On large ships, more than one set of flags may be needed to fill all the dressing lines. Flags should be stopped to the dressing lines the day before the ship is to be full-dressed, otherwise something unforeseen might develop and the dressing lines would not be ready for hoisting at 0800.

The ensigns, jack, and rainbow of flags should be hoisted smartly at 0800. At evening colors, all ensigns and the jack should be lowered ceremoniously. The rainbow of flags should be lowered quickly.

COLORS

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Explain the procedures for conducting colors ceremony and sunrise.

The ceremonial hoisting and lowering of the national flag at 0800 and sunset at commands ashore and aboard ships of the Navy not under way is known as morning and evening colors. The guard of the day and the band, if available, are in the vicinity of the point of hoist.

Aboard Navy ships or naval shore activities on all occasions of hoisting and lowering or half-masting the national ensign, the motions of the senior officer present are to be followed. Five minutes before morning and evening colors, at first call, the PREPARATIVE pennant is hoisted. Ceremonies for colors begin when the pennant is hauled to the dip.

If a band is available for colors ceremonies, “Attention” is sounded, followed by the band playing the national anthem. In the morning, the ensign is started up at the beginning of the music and hoisted smartly to the peak or truck. At evening colors, the ensign is started down at the beginning of the music; lowering is so regulated as to be completed at the last note of the music. The national flag always is hoisted smartly and lowered ceremoniously. “Carry on” is sounded at the completion of the music.

If no band is aboard, “To the Colors” is played on the bugle at morning colors, and “Retreat” at evening colors. For ships having neither a band nor a bugler, whistle signals are used to call attention to colors; a single blast indicates “Attention,” and those not in rank render the hand salute. At the conclusion of colors, three short blasts mean “Carry on.”

Voice commands are used only as a last resort. The words *attention to colors* and *carry on* are passed on the ship's 1MC. The hand salute is rendered as described for whistle signals.

When the music from another ship can be heard during colors and there is no band or bugler aboard your ship, the command to “Carry on” should not be given until the music being overheard is completed.

After morning colors, if foreign warships are present, the national anthem of each nation so represented should be played in the order in which a gun salute would be fired to, or exchanged with, the senior official or officer present of each nation. When in a foreign port, however, the national anthem of the port should be played immediately after morning colors, followed by the national anthems of the other foreign nations represented. A schedule of the English alphabetical order of the members of the United Nations is listed in Annex B of NTP 13.

For sunrise procedure, the PREPARATIVE pennant is hoisted close up 5 minutes before sunrise and hauled down at sunrise. At this time all deck lights are also turned off and appropriate flags hoisted.

FLAG DISPLAYS IN BOATS

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Explain procedures for the display of the ensign, personal flags, and pennants in boats. List day and night procedure for conducting boat hails, and explain boat flagstaff topping ornaments.

The ensign is displayed at the stern of waterborne boats of the naval service as follows:

- When under way during daylight in a foreign port
- When ships are required to be dressed or full-dressed
- When going alongside a foreign vessel
- When an officer or official is embarked on an official occasion
- When a flag or general officer, a unit commander, a commanding officer, or a chief of staff, in uniform, is embarked in a boat of the command or in one assigned for personal use
- At other times when prescribed by the senior officer present

PERSONAL FLAGS AND PENNANTS

When an officer in command (or chief of staff) entitled to a personal flag or command pennant is embarked in a boat on an official occasion, the appropriate flag or pennant is flown at its bow. If the officer is not entitled to a personal flag or pennant, a commission pennant is displayed. On other than official occasions, a miniature personal flag or pennant is displayed near the coxswain's station.

Bow Marking

Boats also carry bow markings indicating to whom the boat is assigned. A boat having an arrow at the bow is assigned for use by a commanding officer or a chief of staff who is not a flag officer. A miniature of the command pennant is on the bow of a boat assigned to a unit commander. A boat assigned for the personal use of a flag or general officer has on each bow the number of stars corresponding to the officer's rank.

Union Jack

In the waters of the nations to which he/she is accredited, a diplomatic representative of or above the rank of charge d'affaires and a governor or governor general commissioned by the President are entitled to display the union jack within his/her area of jurisdiction.

BOAT HAILS

Boat hails are used during hours when honors are rendered (sunrise to sunset). The OOD should challenge an approaching boat as soon as possible by raising a clinched fist in the direction of the boat. He/she should also train a long glass or binoculars on the coxswain. The coxswain replies to this challenge by holding up the number of fingers corresponding to the number of side boys required to honor the senior official or officer on board.

Boats approaching a Navy ship between the hours of sunset and sunrise should be hailed as soon as

within hearing distance with "Boat ahoy." The coxswain then replies with the appropriate word or phrase from table 10-3 to indicate the highest official or officer on board.

FLAGSTAFF TOPPING ORNAMENTS

A staff ornament must top the flagstaff upon which the national ensign is displayed in boats of the naval service when an officer or civil official is embarked on an official occasion or when a flag officer, unit commander, commanding officer, chief of staff, or chief staff officer, in uniform, is embarked in

Table 10-3.—Boat Coxswain's Reply to Challenge

OFFICER OR OFFICIAL ABOARD BOAT	COXSWAIN'S REPLY
President or Vice President of the United States	United States
Secretary, Deputy or an Assistant Secretary of Defense	Defense
Secretary, Under Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of the Navy	Navy
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff	Joint Chiefs of Staff
Chief of Naval Operations or the Vice Chief of Naval Operations	Naval Operations
Fleet, Force, or Type Commander	_____ Fleet or abbreviation of administrative title, i.e., PACFLT.
A Flag Office	Flag Office
A Chief of Staff/Chief Staff Officer	Staff
A Flotilla/Group Commander	* _____ Flot/Gru _____ (type) (number)
A Squadron Commander	* _____ Ron _____ (type) (number)
A Division Commander	* _____ Div _____ (type) (number)
A Marine Officer Commanding a Brigade	Brigade Commander
A Commanding Officer of a Ship or Station	_____(Name of Ship or Station)
A Marine Officer Commanding a Regiment	Regiment Commander
Any Other Commissioned Officer	Aye, Aye
Other Officers (Not Commissioned)	No, No
Enlisted	Hello
A boat not intended to go alongside, regardless of rank of passenger	Passing
* The type abbreviation used, for example, is CRUDESGRU FIVE, SERVGRU ONE, PHIBRON SIX and MINEDIV TWO TWO	

a boat of his/her command or one assigned for his/her personal use. An additional staff ornament of the same type must top the flagstaff in the bow upon which the personal flag, command pennant, or commission pennant is displayed.

Figure 10-4 shows sketches of the different ornaments used today by the Navy. The topping ornament must have a highly polished brass finish. See NTP 13, chapter 11, for rules governing the display of flagstaff topping ornaments.

HONORS

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Explain the procedures for conducting passing honors, side honors, honors for official visits, and honors on relief of command. List occasions when honors can be dispensed with.

In this section, we explain the different procedures used for conducting the different types of honors.

PASSING HONORS

In some cases, the distinctive mark flown from a ship indicates the grade of the senior line officer on board and, thus, is a means of determining who should initiate passing honors. The commanders in chief of the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets periodically issue a list of ships and subdivisions of the fleet with the name and lineal number of each commanding officer and commander. The list helps determine who should initiate honors, but because unit commanders occasionally ride other ships, Signalmen must be alert to distinctive marks being flown.

Passing honors are those honors other than gun salutes that are rendered on occasion between Navy and/or Coast Guard ships or embarked officials or officers that pass, or are passed, close aboard. Close *aboard* means passing within 600 yards for ships and

400 yards for boats, but both frequently are extended to ensure that appropriate honors are rendered.

Sequence for Rendering Passing Honors

Most frequently, passing honors consist of saluting the ship or official passing. When the bow of a ship passes the bow or stern of another commissioned ship or boat, attention to the appropriate side is called by sounding one or two whistles over the 1 MC. All hands in view on that side and not in ranks face outboard. "Hand salute" is sounded. When the other ship or the official returns the salute, "Two" and then "Carry on" are sounded. Bugle, whistle, and passing the word are used for passing honors, with bugle being the preferred method. Bugle or whistle signals are as follows:

One blast—Attention to starboard

Two blasts—Attention to port

One blast—Render salute

Two blasts—Terminate salute, remain at attention

Three blasts—Carry on

In addition, the honors prescribed in table 10-4 are rendered by a ship of the Navy passing close aboard a ship or naval station displaying the flag of the official indicated and by a naval station, when practicable, when a ship displaying such a flag passes close aboard. These honors, and all honors between ships, are acknowledged by rendering the same honors in return.

The honors prescribed in table 10-5 are rendered by a ship of the Navy passing or being passed close aboard by a boat displaying the flag of a civil official indicated. Honors to Armed Forces officers displaying a personal flag or command pennant from the bow of a boat are the same as those for passing Navy ships.

When a ship of the Navy is passing the USS *Arizona* Memorial, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, between sunrise and sunset, passing honors consisting of sounding "Attention" and rendering the hand salute by

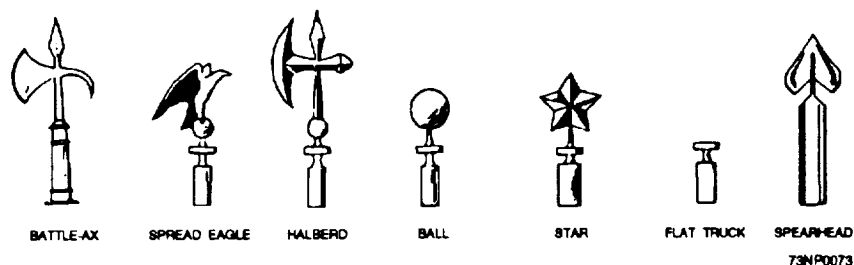


Figure 10-4.—Flagstaff topping ornaments.

Table 10-4.—Passing Honors Between Ships

Official	Uniform	Ruffles and Flour-ishes	Music	Guard	Remarks
President	As prescribed by the senior officer present	4			Man rail, unless otherwise directed by the senior officer present
Secretary of State, when special foreign representative of the President	As prescribed by the senior officer present	4	National Anthem	Full	Crew at quarters
Vice President	Of the day		Hail Columbia	Full	Crew at quarters
Secretary of Defense, Deputy Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, or Under Secretary of Defense	Of the day		National Anthem	Full	Crew at quarters
An Assistant Secretary of Defense, Under Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of the Navy	Of the day		National Anthem	Full	Crew at quarters

Table 10-5.—Passing Honors Between Boats

Official	Ruffles and Flour-ishes	Music	Guard	Remarks
President	4	National Anthem	Full	“Attention” sounded, and salute by all persons in view on deck. If directed by the senior officer present, man rail.
Secretary of State, when special foreign representative of the President	4	National Anthem	Full	“Attention” sounded, and salute by all persons in view on deck.
Vice President		Hail Columbia		“Attention” sounded, and salute by all persons in view on deck.
Secretary of Defense, Deputy Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, or Under Secretary of Defense, an Assistant Secretary of Defense, Under Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of the Navy		Admiral's March	Full	“Attention” sounded, and salute by all persons in view on deck.
Other civil official entitled to honors on official visit				“Attention” sounded, and salute by all persons in view on deck.

all persons in view on deck and not in ranks must be executed by that ship.

Honors to officers or officials embarked in boats are acknowledged by the officer or official through a hand salute or other mark of respect.

When a boat bearing a senior passes, passing honors are rendered. If a junior but a commanding officer, unit commander, or flag officer on an official occasion passes, personnel on the quarterdeck only will salute. This is a mark of respect to a person who holds command at sea.

Dispensing with Passing Honors

Passing honors are not rendered after sunset or before 0800 except when international courtesy requires such action. They are not exchanged between ships of the Navy engaged in tactical evolutions outside port.

The senior officer present may direct that passing honors be omitted in whole or in part.

Passing honors are not rendered by or required of ships with small bridge areas, such as submarines, particularly when in restricted waters.

Passing Honors to Foreign Dignitaries and Warships

Honors prescribed for the President of the United States are rendered by a ship of the Navy being passed close aboard by a ship or boat displaying the flag or standard of a foreign president, sovereign, or member of a reigning family except that the foreign national anthem is played instead of the national anthem of the United States.

SIDE HONORS

Side honors are rendered to foreign officers, civil officials, and all U.S. officers boarding and departing the ship, when directed by the senior officer present; the side is piped and the appropriate number of side boys paraded. Officers appropriate to the occasion attend the side on the arrival and departure of officials and officers.

Side honors are not rendered between sunset and 0800, during meal hours, or on Sundays. Side boys are not paraded on Sundays; on other days between sunset and 0800; or during meal hours of the crew, general drills and evolutions, and periods of regular overhaul except in honor of civil officials or foreign officers,

when they may be paraded at anytime during daylight. Side boys are paraded only on scheduled visits.

Except for official visits and other formal occasions, side boys are not paraded in honor of officers of the armed services of the United States unless otherwise directed by the senior officer present.

Side boys are not paraded in honor of an officer of the armed services in civilian clothes unless such officer is acting in an official civil capacity.

The side shall be piped when side boys are paraded, but not at other times.

Side honors also may be rendered as a part of naval courtesy to officers and officials on occasion other than official visit. Once the honors are rendered, it becomes an official visit, modified by the senior officer present.

HONORS FOR OFFICIAL VISITS

Articles in *U.S. Navy Regulations* detail honors for official visits by military and civil officials arriving and departing.

Arriving

Honors prescribed for an official visit are rendered on arrival as follows:

1. When the rail is manned, men/women shall be uniformly spaced at the rail on each weather deck, facing outboard.

2. "Attention" is sounded as the visitor's boat or vehicle approaches the ship.

3. If an arrival gun salute is prescribed, it is fired as the visitor approaches and still is clear of the side. The proper flag or pennant is broken on the first gun, and hauled down on the last gun except when it is to be flown for the duration of the visit. Other ships firing a concurrent salute, on the last gun should haul down the flag or pennant displayed in the honor of the visitor. If the ship visited is moored in such a position that it is not practicable to render the gun salute before the visitor arrives on board, the salute is rendered (provided local regulations do not forbid gun salutes) after the official and party have arrived on board and are in a position well clear of the saluting battery.

4. The boat or vehicle is piped as it comes alongside.

5. The visitor is piped over the side; all persons on the quarterdeck salute and the guard presents arms until

termination of the call, ruffles and flourishes, music, or gun salute, depending on which is the last rendered. If a gun salute is not prescribed on arrival but a flag or pennant is to be displayed during the visit, it is broken at the start of the call.

6. Piping of the side, ruffles and flourishes, and music are rendered in that order. In the absence of a band, "To the Colors" is sounded on the bugle in lieu of the national anthem, when required.

7. The visitor, if entitled to 11 guns or more, is invited to inspect the guard upon completion of honors.

Departing

Departure honors for an official visit are as follows:

1. The rail is manned, if required.
2. "Attention" is sounded as the visitor arrives on the quarterdeck.
3. When the visitor is ready to leave the ship, the guard presents arms; all persons on the quarterdeck salute; and ruffles and flourishes, followed by music, are rendered. The visitor is then piped over the side. The salute and present arms terminate with the last note of the call. If no salute is to be fired, the flag or pennant displayed in honor of the visitor is hauled down.
4. The boat or vehicle is piped away from the side.
5. If a gun salute is prescribed on departure, it is fired when the visitor is clear of the side. If a flag or pennant is displayed in honor of the visitor, it is hauled down with the last gun of the salute.

The same honor and ceremonies as for an official visit to a ship of the Navy is rendered, insofar as practicable and appropriate, on the occasion of an official visit to a naval station, except that manning the rail, piping the side, and parading side boys are not considered appropriate. When, in the opinion of the senior officer present, such honors will serve a definite purpose, they may be rendered.

Signalman's Duties

The Signalman's responsibilities for honors during official visits are the proper display of flags or pennants. That entails some advance planning and coordination to ensure a snappy evolution.

A basic rule for the display is that only one distinctive mark may fly from a ship. Thus, if the person visiting is an officer eligible for command at

sea who rates a personal flag or command pennant, the personal flag flies in lieu of the commission pennant. If the ship visited is a flagship and the officer visiting is senior to the commander of the unit and rates a personal flag or command pennant, the personal flag or command pennant of the officer visiting flies in lieu of the unit commander's personal flag or pennant. The flag or pennant of an officer not eligible for command at sea is not displayed from a ship of the Navy.

The Red Cross flag is never replaced. The flying of the personal flag of an officer eligible for command of a warship at sea violates the neutrality of the provisions of the Geneva Convention.

In addition to the rule that only one distinctive mark may be displayed at one time, the commission pennant and personal flag of a civil official may not be displayed simultaneously. When a civil official in whose honor the display of a personal flag is prescribed pays an official visit or embarks for passage, the personal flag is displayed at the after masthead or most conspicuous hoist, replacing the distinctive mark. If the mark is a commission pennant, it is immediately lowered; if it is an officer's personal flag or command pennant, it is shifted, as explained earlier in this chapter.

Visits during dress ship also provide variations in displaying personal flags and command pennants. Check *U.S. Navy Regulations* and NTP 13 for details.

HONORS ON RELIEF OF COMMAND

When a flag officer or a unit commander relieves a command or departs after being relieved, the same honors are rendered as for an official visit, subject to regulations pertaining to gun salutes.

When assuming a command, an officer reads his/her orders to the assembled officers and crew. Immediately after reading the orders, the officer's personal flag or command pennant is broken, and a gun salute, if required, is fired.

If the flag officer or unit commander is relieving another officer in command, the officer being relieved reads his/her orders to the assembled officers and crew. On completion thereof, or after the gun salute, if fired, the commission pennant is hoisted and the personal flag or pennant immediately lowered. The officer succeeding to command then reads his/her orders, and on completion thereof, the flag or command pennant is broken and the ship's commission pennant is hauled down.

An important point of the relieving ceremony as it pertains to a Signaller is that the ship's distinctive mark always be in the air. There are occasions, for example, when commanding officers (below flag rank) being relieved are presented with the ship's commission pennant. When such a presentation is to be made, a new commission pennant must be closed up before the one to be presented is hauled down.

HONORS FOR OFFICIAL INSPECTION

When a flag officer or unit commander boards a ship of the Navy to make an official inspection, honors are rendered as for an official visit. The flag or pennant is broken upon arrival and is hauled down on departure. When the flag of a flag officer or unit commander is flying on board the vessel being inspected, his/her personal flag is hauled down on board the flagship unless the latter is the vessel being inspected.

The same provisions apply, insofar as practical and appropriate, when a flag officer in command ashore makes an official inspection of a unit of his/her command.

HONORS FOR FOREIGN MILITARY OFFICERS AND CIVIL OFFICIALS

Honors rendered to foreign military officers and civil officials are essentially the same as those for United States officers and civil officials of the same rank. A foreign naval officer's flag is not, however, displayed from a U.S. Navy ship. Flags pictured in figure 10-5 are shown for the purpose of recognition and as an aid in determining relative seniority for rendering passing honors and the like.

The national ensign of the foreign country is flown from a U.S. Navy ship when visited by a foreign officer or civil official. If the official is entitled to a 21-gun salute, the foreign ensign is flown from the main masthead. If entitled to fewer than 21 guns, it is flown from the foremast. The personal flag or command pennant normally displayed at the main would be moved to another location, as mentioned earlier for U.S. civil officials.

MISCELLANEOUS FLAGS AND PENNANTS

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Explain the use of the following flags and pennants: U.S. Navy flag, United Nations flag, homeward-bound pennant, church or Jewish worship pennant, Red Cross flag, the POW/MIA flag, award flags and pennants, and the absentee pennants.

The use of the following flags is a must-know for all Signallers; take a little time and learn the procedures for their display.

U.S. NAVY FLAG

On 24 April 1959, the President, on the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy, established an official flag (fig. 10-6) for the United States Navy. That was done to fulfill a need for an official flag to represent the Navy on a variety of ceremonial, parade, and display occasions.

The U.S. Navy flag represents the Navy as follows:

- At Official ceremonies
- In parades
- During official Navy display occasions
- At public gatherings when the Navy is an official participant
- On other occasions as may be authorized by the Secretary of the Navy

When used for these purposes, the Navy flag accompanies and takes the place of honor after the national flag. However, when other branches of the Armed Forces are participating, the flags take precedence in order of seniority of the services represented.

UNITED NATIONS FLAG

The flag of the United Nations consists of the official emblem of the United Nations in white centered on a "United Nations blue" field (fig. 10-7).

The flag is flown from all buildings, offices, and other property occupied by the United Nations. The manner and circumstances of display conform, as far as appropriate, to the laws and customs applicable to the display of the national flag of the country in which the display is made.

The United Nations flag is displayed at installations of the Armed Forces of the United States only upon occasions of visits of high dignitaries of the United Nations while in performance of their duties with the United Nations. When so displayed, it is displayed with the U.S. flag; both flags should be of approximately the same size and on the same level, with the flag of the United States in the position of honor on the right, the observer's left.